

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 119753

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ORIGIN AID-85

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P 062209Z JUN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY COTONOU PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ACCRA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LOME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

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AFDROUGHT

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: COTONOU - NIGER TRANSSHIPMENT

ROME FOR FODAG; EC BRUSSELS FOR MARTIN; LAGOS FOR SHUMATE;

PARIS FOR HELMAN

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PAGE 02 STATE 119753

REFS: (A) NIAMEY 1729 (B) COTONOU U853 (C) COTONOU 0826
(NOTAL)

1. APPRECIATE CONTINUING ANALYSIS REFTELS CONCERNING
PROBLEM AREAS RE MOVEMENT U.S. GRAIN VERSUS OTHER DONOR
FOODSTUFFS COTONOU - NIGER.

2. ALTHOUGH NOT AWARE OF CONCLUSIONS LAGOS JUNE 5 MEET-
ING REFTEL (B), AID/W GENERAL POSITION IS AND HAS BEEN
WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER ANY FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVE TO SPEED
DONOR FOOD SHIPMENT, INCLUDING SHARING WITH OTHER DONORS
AS APPROPRIATE, RELATED COSTS. AS ADDRESSEES AWARE, AID/W
CONCURRED IN ABORTIVE EFFORT TO MOVE U.K. GRAIN TRANSAHAR-
AN ROUTE FOR MALI AND IS PLANNING MOVEMENT INITIAL 1,000
MT U.S. GRAIN VIA ALGIERS TO AGADEZ. SIMILARLY, AID/W
BELIEVES IF RDO/AMEMBASSY COTONOU/OSRO CONCUR IN EFFORT
FOR NIGERIAN TRUCKING ALTERNATIVE TO MOVE COTONOU BURDEN
NON-US FOOD, U.S. PREPARED TO ASSIST WITH OTHER DONORS
IN MEETING ADDED COSTS ENTAILED.

3. IN THIS CONNECTION, HOWEVER, AID/W HAS PRESUMED FROM
PRIOR DISCUSSION FAO/OSRO ROME AND PAGE THAT OSRO/PAGE
HAD AUTHORITY FROM MOST NON-U.S. DONORS TO EXPEND SAHEL
TRUST FUNDS FOR REQUIRED EXTRAORDINARY TRANSPORT
MEASURES SUCH AS THIS AND RECENT NIGERIA TRUCKING RATE
INCREASE DUE RAIL SITUATION. IN EVENT TRUST FUND
SUPPLEMENTATION MAY BE REQUIRED AS RESULT OF SUCH EXPEN-
DITURES, U.S., AGAIN, PREPARED TO ASSIST WITH OTHER
DONORS IN ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION.

4. PER ABOVE, AID/W BELIEVES, THEREFORE, THAT WFP REP
COTONOU ACTING THROUGH PAGE OSRO HAS REQUISITE
AUTHORITY TO ACT ON ALTERNATIVE SUGGESTED REFTEL A
WITHOUT RECOURSE DIRECT U.S. FUNDING.

5. IN VIEW ALREADY EFFECTIVE U.S. MOVEMENT THROUGH
DAHOMAY DO NOT FEEL JOINT MOVEMENT EFFORT THROUGH
NIGERIAN TRUCKING ALTERNATIVE ENTAILING ADDITIONAL U.S.
COST/AMENDMENT PA/PR REQUIRED AT THIS TIME. DECONTROL
12/31/74. KISSINGER
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